

Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-11 L-03 AGR-20 XMB-07

DRC-01 RSC-01 /091 W

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R 281010Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5527

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6236

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ECON, PK

SUBJECT: ESSO FERTILIZER PLANT

REF: STATE 139673

1. EMBASSY MEMCON DATED 14 JUNE POUCHED WASHINGTON 20 JUNE REPORTS OUTCOME OF SWEENEY'S 14 JUNE MEETING WITH FINANCE SECRETARY KAZI. SWEENEY ASKED KAZI POINTBLANK IF GOP WOULD IMPLEMENT SEPTEMBER AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH ESSO WOULD BE PERMITTED PRICE INCREASE. KAZI REPLIED, "YES, A CONTRACT IS A CONTRACT." SWEENEY THEN STATED THAT HE WAS LEAVING

PAKISTAN FOR HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT IN US ON 10 JUNE AND INQUIRED IF PRICE INCREASE COULD BE IMPLEMENTED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. KAZI REPLIED, " WHY NOT".

2. UNFORTUNATELY, LITTLE HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN. ESSO REPRESENTATIVE AKBAR MIRZA TOLD ECONOMIC COUNSELOR JUNE 28 THAT GOP HAS NOT YET GRANTED PRICE INCREASE AND GOP OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING IT, INDUSTRIES ADDITIONAL SECRETARY KURESHI, HAS NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM KAZI TO DO SO. KAZI IS IN PARIS ON CONSORTIUM BUSINESS AND WILL NOT RETURN TILL JULY 1. CONNALLEE AND MIRZA HOPE TO SEE KAZI ABOUT JULY 3.

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3. ON 14 JUNE SWEENEY TOLD EMBOFFS THAT IF PRICE INCREASE

GOES THROUGH, ESSO WILL PROBABLY GO AHEAD WITH ITS \$2-3 MILLION
EXPANSION PLANS WHICH WOULD INCREASE PLANT'S PRODUCTION BY
APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT. THIS PROJECT WOULD TAKE 1-2 YEARS.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

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